

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 have been canceled without prejudice, and replaced by new claims 18-32, which are currently pending. Entry of the amendments, and reexamination and allowance of the pending claims are respectfully requested.

First, the cancelation of claims 1-17 renders moot the drawing objections, and the rejections of these claims, set forth in the Office Action.

Second, Applicant respectfully submits that new claims 18-32 are allowable over the cited prior art. Claims 18, 27 and 30 are independent.

For example, USP 6,758,484 to Rice ("Rice") does not teach or suggest a pivotable footrest, which is recited in claims 18, 27 and 30.

In addition, with respect to claim 18, the footrest 41 in USP 6,068,075 to Saiki ("Saiki") is not pivotably coupled to a cut-out region in a bar of an engine guard, with the footrest 41 fitted inside the cut-out region when the footrest 41 is not in use. The footrest 41 is attached to a bracket 42 that extends outwardly from the guard pipe 34. See column 3, lines 39-49 of Saiki. Saiki does not provide any cut-out region where the footrest 41 can be fitted inside.

With respect to claim 27, Saiki does not teach or suggest any pin extending from the first side of the bar and disposed inside a slot, with the slot defining the limits of the pivoting motion of the footrest.

Finally, with respect to claim 30, Saiki does not teach or suggest any means for defining the limits of the pivoting motion of the footrest.

In light of the above reasons, claims 18, 27 and 30, and claims 19-26, 28-29 and 31-32 depending therefrom, are submitted to be in condition for allowance. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned if the Examiner has any proposed amendments or informalities that need to be resolved.

Respectfully Submitted,



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I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.

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By: 

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